



Dear Aztec Fans:

The SDSU Athletics Department is grateful to have outstanding support for all of our sports programs. We would be unable to meet our goal of achieving excellence without this assistance. **Our commitment to adhere of NCAA rules and regulations is one important aspect of our success.** The SDSU Compliance Office is responsible for educating our student-athletes, staff members, boosters, and community about NCAA rules and regulations. As a season ticket holder you are considered a “**booster**” under NCAA rules, and because of such we wanted to remind you of a few applicable NCAA rules.

New to this year are the rules surrounding Name, Image, and Likeness (NIL). Current rules do permit boosters to engage in legitimate NIL opportunities with our student-athletes. NIL refers to the use of a student-athlete’s name, image, and likeness to promote a business, product, etc. in exchange for compensation. NIL activities may include, but are not limited to: social media endorsements, commercials, appearances, autograph signings, and other business activities. Please refer to the [SDSU Athletics NIL website](#) for more information prior to engaging in any of these activities.

NCAA rules prohibit boosters from providing “**extra benefits.**” Extra benefits are special arrangements or gifts provided to student-athletes, their friends, or their families. The receipt of extra benefits by a student-athlete or their family/friends can jeopardize the student’s NCAA eligibility. Some general examples of extra benefits include cash, gifts, and clothing. On game days, common types of extra benefits include:

- Providing a ticket for a reserved seat or access to a premium seat area (clubs, suites, etc.)
- Providing transportation to or from a game
- Providing tailgate access or meals
- Providing lodging through a special arrangement or at a free/reduced cost

Additionally, please be aware these same rules also pertain to prospective student-athletes (recruits) and their families/friends but are called “**recruiting inducements**” rather than “extra benefits”. Prospective student-athletes are identified as a student who has started classes for the ninth grade (or in Men’s Basketball & Softball the 7th grade).

Often times we are asked about pre-existing relationships between boosters and student-athletes and/or prospects (or their family/friends). A pre-existing relationship is a relationship that is initiated prior to the family friend/neighbor becoming a prospect, and based on factors unrelated to athletics. If you ever feel this applies to you, please reach out to the SDSU compliance office for verification prior to providing any benefits to the prospect (or their family/friends).

Lastly, boosters are not permitted to have either on-campus or off-campus recruiting contact with prospects or their families. This limit on contact includes telephone and written communication. While we appreciate your interest in recruiting, please leave the actual recruiting to the coaches.

While we hope that the above examples give context to some of the NCAA rules it is not an exhaustive list. Feel free to contact us with specific questions and visit the compliance webpage on goaztecs.com for the [Mountain West Conference Sportsmanship Initiative](#) and additional resources.

Sincerely,

Tim Lanski
Senior Associate Athletics Director, Compliance